

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

BRUCE LARSON

ELECTRIC SECTION - ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

ENERGY DIVISION  
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION  
ON ITS OWN MOTION

-VS-

COMMONWEALTH COMPANY  
DOCKET NOS. 00-0230 AND 00-0244 (CONSOLIDATED)

APRIL 2000

**OFFICIAL FILE**

I.C.C. DOCKET NO. 00-0230/00-0244

Staff Exhibit No. 2

Witness \_\_\_\_\_

Date 4/27/00 Reporter [Signature]

- 1 1. **Q. Please state your name and business address.**  
2 A. My name is Bruce A. Larson and my business address is 527 East Capitol  
3 Avenue, Springfield, Illinois.  
4
- 5 2. **Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**  
6 A. I am employed by the Illinois Commerce Commission as a Senior Analyst in the  
7 Electric Section in the Engineering Department of the Energy Division.  
8
- 9 3. **Q. Please state your educational background.**  
10 A. I received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering from Purdue  
11 University in December 1975. I am a Registered Professional Engineer in Illinois.  
12 I joined the Staff of the Illinois Commerce Commission ("Staff") most recently in  
13 January 1990.  
14
- 15 4. **Q. What is the purpose of this docket?**  
16 A. The Illinois Commerce Commission has opened an investigation pursuant to  
17 Section 16-111(g) of the Public Utilities Act ("Act") (220 ILCS 5/16-111(g))  
18 concerning Commonwealth Edison Company's ("ComEd") proposed transfer of  
19 generating assets to an affiliated Exelon Genco.  
20
- 21 5. **Q. What are your duties and responsibilities associated with this docket?**  
22 A. ComEd proposes to transfer its nuclear fueled generating stations, all of the  
23 Purchase Power Agreements ("PPA") associated with its formerly owned fossil  
24 plants, PPAs associated with purchases from Independent Power Producers,  
25 ComEd's entire wholesale marketing operation and various related items to

26 Exelon Genco. Section 16-111(g)(4)(vi) of the Act provides the Commission with  
27 the authority to prohibit the transaction if the transaction will render ComEd unable  
28 to provide its tariffed service in a safe and reliable manner. It is my responsibility  
29 to determine whether the proposed transfer of the nuclear generating stations,  
30 PPAs and related assets will render ComEd unable to provide its tariffed services  
31 in a safe and reliable manner.

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33 6. **Q. Please summarize the conclusions made in your direct testimony.**

34 A. I have found nothing that would lead me to conclude the proposed transaction will  
35 render ComEd unable to provide its tariffed services in a safe and reliable  
36 manner.

37

38 7. **Q. What method have you used to determine whether the proposed transaction**  
39 **will render ComEd unable to provide its tariffed services in a safe and**  
40 **reliable manner?**

41 A. To date, ComEd has operated the facilities it is transferring in a manner which  
42 provides safe and reliable service to its customers. I have reviewed ComEd's  
43 testimony and the terms of the Purchase Power Agreement ("PPA") to determine  
44 whether the availability and operation of the transferred units and PPAs will differ  
45 in any substantive way from the availability and operation of these plants under  
46 management by ComEd. The PPA provides for 100% of the output of the nuclear  
47 facilities through the year 2004 with an option to 2006. The transfer includes fuel  
48 contracts associated with the units.

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In addition, ComEd is transferring the PPAs associated with its former fossil plants. The five PPAs are the Coal-Fired Stations PPA, the Peaking Units PPA, the Collins PPA, the State Line PPA and the Kincaid PPA. Together, the five PPAs encompass all of ComEd's fossil fuel generating stations. Also, PPAs that ComEd has made with Independent Power Producers are included in the transfer. The PPAs set forth the relationship between ComEd operations and the buyers after the sale takes place. Some of ComEd's coal contracts were included with this sale. Finally, ComEd is transferring all of its wholesale marketing assets and personnel to Exelon Genco.

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60 8. **Q. Will the PPAs substantially change how ComEd will be able to provide safe**  
61 **and reliable service to ComEd's customers?**

62 A. I do not believe the PPAs will have that effect. The direct testimony of ComEd  
63 witness McDonald (ComEd Appendix E) explains how ComEd will maintain its  
64 service obligations under the PPAs. In my opinion, the following terms of the  
65 PPAs are significant to ComEd's ability to provide safe and reliable service after  
66 transfer of the nuclear units and other assets:

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- Under the PPA, ComEd is entitled to an amount of generating capacity equal to its full requirements, through 2004 (PPA Sec. 3(b))

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- The same management and personnel team took over ComEd's nuclear operation will continue to operate the plants. PECO management and personnel will enhance the team.

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- 72           • Under the PPA, ComEd can direct, and Exelon Genco must provide all FERC  
73           ancillary services as well as black start service and meet all applicable  
74           standards of MAIN, NERC and any ISO (PPA Sec. 3(c)(d))
- 75           • ComEd will continue as control area operator (PPA Sec. 4(c)).
- 76           • Each year, ComEd shall deliver to Exelon Genco an Annual Load Plan which  
77           sets forth ComEd's expected requirements for the year. (PPA Sec. 4(a))  
78           Exelon Genco must provide ComEd's full requirements regardless of the load  
79           plan. (PPA. Sec. 4(c).
- 80           • The PPAs require Exelon Genco to schedule outages pursuant to "Prudent  
81           Utility Practice", which is defined in the PPA (PPA Sec. 8)
- 82           • Exelon Genco cannot sell or assign any of the assets during the term of the  
83           PPA without the consent of ComEd (PPA, Sec. 12(c)).

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85   9.   **Q.   Does ComEd's testimony indicate whether it will be able to provide safe**  
86           **and reliable service after cancellation of the PPA?**

87   A.   Yes, it does. In direct testimony (ComEd Appendix E), ComEd explains how  
88           various regulatory, and contractual requirements will ensure continued reliability  
89           upon cancellation of the PPAs. The main points of the testimony are as follows:

90

- 91           • The terms of the PPA for full requirements run through 2004, which will give  
92           ComEd adequate time to make system improvements or arrange for additional  
93           generation. The partial requirement period runs through 2006.

- 94           • ComEd retains its contractual rights to the output of Kincaid and State Line  
95           Stations through 2014.
- 96           • By 2005, there may be an independent system operator ("ISO") or  
97           transmission company which will have responsibility for operating and  
98           maintaining the regional transmission system.
- 99           • Significant new generating capacity is planned and under construction in  
100          ComEd's control area. See Attachment 1 to my testimony.

101

102   10.   **Q.   If an ISO or Transmission Company is not in place by the time the PPAs is**  
103           **cancelled, do you believe this would cause ComEd's reliability to suffer?**

104           A.   No. It would only mean that ComEd, not the ISO or transmission company, would  
105           be responsible, as ComEd is now, for assuring safe operation of the transmission  
106           system in ComEd's control area.

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108   11.   **Q.   In summary, do you believe the transfer of ComEd's nuclear generating**  
109           **stations, fossil plant PPAs, and related assets will render ComEd unable to**  
110           **provide its tariffed service in a safe and reliable manner?**

111           A.   No. During the full requirements term of the PPA, ComEd's resources from the  
112           PPA, combined with new capacity in ComEd's territory, is sufficient to provide  
113           reliable service. After the expiration of the PPAs, contractual and regulatory  
114           constraints will maintain system reliability.

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116 12. Q. **Is there any other information you believe ComEd should provide to support**  
117 **its assertion that it will continue to provide safe and reliable service after the**  
118 **sale of the Stations?**

119 A. Yes. The Company should provide a load and resource statement for 100%  
120 retention of customers. For any instances where ComEd's reserve margin falls  
121 below 15%, the Company should explain how it intends to reliably serve the  
122 demand.

123

124 13. Q. **Have you reviewed ComEd's supplemental testimony that responds to the**  
125 **questions posed by the Chairman of the Commission?**

126 A. Yes I have. The Chairman posed two sets of questions. The first set pertained to  
127 the provision of reliable service which I will address. The second set pertained to  
128 finance and will be addressed by the Financial Analysis Division. The first set of  
129 questions is: [w]ill Commonwealth Edison have the ability to provide a reliable  
130 source of electricity to its retail customers who opt to take service under the power  
131 purchase option ("PPO") required by Section 16-110(b) if the transactions  
132 described in the Section 16-111(g)(vi) notice ("Notice") are completed? Will there  
133 be a reliable source of electricity if there is no material change in the Neutral Fact  
134 Finder ("NFF")-determined market value for customers who shift to the PPO  
135 between now and Summer 2000, as well as for customers who shift to the PPO  
136 in future summers (again, assuming no material change in the NFF-determined  
137 market value of power and energy)?

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139 14.Q. **What is the relationship between the NFF, PPO and ComEd's ability to**  
140 **provide reliable service?**

141 A. Because of perceived problems with the market value set by the NFF, many  
142 customers that have opted for suppliers other than ComEd are expected to return  
143 to ComEd for the summer of 2000. The mechanism used to return to ComEd is  
144 called PPO assignment.

145

146 15. Q. **Has ComEd addressed this problem?**

147 A. ComEd has addressed the problem. They have done so by using the forecasted  
148 load for their entire service area, with no customers switching to new suppliers, as  
149 the load they must serve. ComEd has supplied supplemental testimony in  
150 support of its position. That testimony, together with the load and resource  
151 statement requested above, demonstrate that ComEd will be able to reliably serve  
152 its load.

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154 15. Q. **Does this complete your direct testimony?**

155 A. Yes, it does.

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## **Proposed and Completed Independent Power Producer Plants**

### **Units Completed *Total for 1999 1146 MW***

#### Elwood Energy:

By Peoples Energy and Dominion Resources. 600 MW in operation July 1999. Location: Near Joliet. Has asked IEPA for 3100 MW permit.

#### Dynegy: Rocky Road

250 MW in operation. East Dundee, "A" List location but at 138kV.

#### Illinois Power

176 MW at Tiltan Sub. (Old GM plant near Danville) In operation. Relieves loading of Sidney 345/138 transformer

#### Soyland Power

120 MW In operation. Near Alosey IL.

### **New Units in 2000 *Total of 2760 MW***

#### Indeck:

300 MW Rockford industrial site appears likely in 2000. Pursuing other sites that are less certain.

#### Dynegy: Rocky Road

Additional 100 MW. East Dundee, "A" List location but at 138kV.

#### KN Energy:

500 MW by 2000. Near Island Lake, IL. Withdrew Air Permit Application

#### ENRON

668 MW Near Manhattan, IL. (NW Will County)

668 MW Near Plano IL. (NW Kendall County) May duplicate the above.

Ameren

206 MW Near Gibson City, IL

176 MW Near Pinckneyville, IL

180 MW at Joppa plant site.

Unicom

60 MW. North Chicago, IL

Southwestern Electric Coop

45 MW. Greenville, IL

AES/CILCO

25 MW Diesels. Peoria and Lincoln, IL

Reliant Energy

Shelby County. 340 MW each. Under construction.

**New Units in 2001 *Total of 1945 MW***

Cal Energy and MidAmerican Cordova Energy Center

500 MW plant. Combined cycle. Near Quad Cities nuclear plant.

LS Power

1100 MW Wildy Rd. SE Kendal County. Combined Cycle

AmerenCIPS

300 MW Increase Repowering Grand Tower Station

AES/CILCO Cogen

45 MW. Steam to Caterpillar

**New Units in 2002 or Later *Over 9900 MW***

Reliant

840 MW. Aurora, IL

Carlton Inc.

330 - 400 MW. Zion, IL

Skygen Energy

800 MW. Zion, IL

Mission Energy

500 MW in Chicago by 2004.

Reliant

500 MW McHenry County. Intersection of Routes 146 and 47. Zoning Board made negative recommendation to County Board.

LS Power

Up to 1000 MW near Dixon, IL. No date. Combined Cycle.

Ameren

Additional 354MW CT Summer 2002. Near Pinckneyville, IL

Reliant Energy and Wood River Refining:

634 MW with the refinery as a steam user. St. Louis metro east location.

Wisvest and City of Chicago

200-300 MW. Summer 2002. Southside of Chicago

Constellation Power Development (BG&E)

250 - 500 MW. Summer 2002. Beecher City in Shelby Co.

First Power

Cogen Plant. 300 MW Chicago Calumet Area.

Standard Power and Light

400 MW DuPage Airport. No date.

Duke Energy Lee Generating Station

664 MW Near Dixon IL.

ABB Energy Ventures Grande Prairie Energy

550 MW Bartlett, DuPage Co.

Coastal Power Fox River Fox River Station

345 MW Big Rock, Kane Co.

Constellation

175 MW West Chicago LLC, DuPage Co.

175 MW University Park LLC, Will Co.

Power Energy Partners Crete Energy Park

393 MW Crete, Will Co.

Dominion Energy Lincoln Generation

688 MW Kincaid, Christian Co.

Kinder Morgan Aux Sable Power Plant

176 MW Morris, Grundy Co.

Entergy Power Flora Station

588 MW Flora, Clay Co.